

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

VIRGINIA

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

DRY HYDRANT

CODE 432

Land Owner/Operator_____

County_____ SWCD_____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By_____ Date_____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained dry hydrant is an asset to the farm. The hydrant was designed and installed to provide a system that permits the withdrawal of water by suction. Estimated life span of this installation is at least _____ years. The life of the hydrant can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Your operation and maintenance program includes:

- Keeping the site clear of obstruction and regular mowing of the dry hydrant access area will be required to keep the area readily available for emergency use.
- Pumper testing of the dry hydrant shall be done at least semi-annually to verify site usability. This test shall include back flushing, followed by a pumper test at the maximum designed flow rate. Careful attention should be given to silt, debris, aquatic growth, or other interference that may limit the full operation of the dry hydrant.
- Checks of the intake screen should be made regularly to identify any sediment build-up and to provide information for a cleanout operation or for aquatic growth control needs. The hydrant should be back-flushed each spring and fall to remove any silt or debris that may have accumulated on the screen.
- Remove debris that may accumulate at the hydrant intake. Screens shall be kept in place. If fences are installed, they shall be maintained to prevent unauthorized entry.
- The pond that supplies the dry hydrant should be inspected periodically and especially after heavy rains to determine whether it is functioning properly or if repairs are needed. The vegetative cover of the dam and earth spillway shall be maintained by mowing and fertilizing when needed. Trees can cause leaks and safety hazards and should not be permitted on the embankment, in the auxiliary spillway, or near the hydrant components including intake, pipeline, and outlet.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage to any earthfills, spillways, outlets or other appurtenance.

- Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals and repair any damage caused by their activity.

Additional Operation and Maintenance Requirements Specific to this Plan:_____

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